Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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O 291646Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5124 AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, NL, NO SUBJECT: CIVAIR: SAS

1. THE FOLLOWING WAS RECEIVED TODAY FROM THE NORWEGIAN

EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE QUOTE:

THIS EMBASSY HAS TODAY, AT 15.14 HOURS, RECEIVED THE FOL-LOWING TEXT BY TELEX FROM THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

"FOR WALDMANN FROM BOGH:

AS PROMISED I HAVE NOW BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SAS AND HAVE RECEIVED A PRELIMINARY REPORT. THE PANAM DRAFT FOR A JOINT COMPANY STATEMENT SEEMS ACCEPTABLE TO SAS ON ALL POINTS EXCEPT THE STIPULATION THAT ONLY 7 OF THE 14 SAS NEW YORK-FREQUENCIES SHOULD EMANATE FROM COPENHAGEN. IN VIEW OF THE REDUCTION ON THE SCANDINAVIAN-NEW YORK RUN WHICH SAS HAS IN PRINCIPLE AGREED TO (A 30 PERCENT CUT) IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO ALLOW SAS FLEXIBILITY OF SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS NECESSARY TO ASCERTAIN BOTH ECONOMIC OPERATION AND A SATISFACTORY SERVICE OF THE SCANDINAVIAN MARKET.

IF THIS PROBLEM CAN BE RESOLVED THROUGH AN ACCEPTANCE BY YOUR SIDE OF A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO THE SAS FREQUENCY-DISTRIBUTION, I ASSUME THAT THE COPENHAGEN-"AGREEMENT" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BETWEEN PANAM AND SAS CAN BE TACITLY TAKEN AS THE BASIS

FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUMMER-PROGRAMMES. TORE BOGH" END QUOTE

2. FOR OSLO-PLEASE INFORM BOGH. WALDMANN HAS RECEIVED HIS NOTE IN THE HAGUE. WALDMANN FEELS ISSUE IS NOT SAS FLEXIBILITY, BUT ADHERENCE TO ORIGINAL UNDERSTANDING. PRE-LIMINARY TECHNICAL INFORMATION FROM PAN AM INDICATES NO INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES EXIST TO CONDUCTING SAS OPERATIONS AS AGREED, THAT IS, THROUGH BERGEN TO N.Y., AND THAT THIS COULD NOT BE BASIS FOR MISUNDERSTANDING. WALDMANN FEELS SAS SHOULD ADHERE TO ORIGINAL UNDERSTANDING IN ABSENCE OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS NOT MENTIONED DURING COPENHAGEN CARRIER DISCUSSIONS. IF, HOWEVER, TECHNICAL PROBLEMS PREVENT ADHERENCE, THEN CARRIERS MAY WISH TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS RE COPENHAGEN-NEW YORK FLIGHTS AND FOR THIS PURPOSE ONLY RECONVENE TALKS. IN THE ABSENCE OF CARRIER AGREEMENT, FURTHER GOVERNMENT TALKS WOULD THEN BE NECESSARY.

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